



AF13672

PATENT
Atty. Dkt. No. MRKS/0012

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Pietras, et al.

Serial No.: 09/509,073

Confirmation No.: 5424

Filed: August 22, 2000

For: An Apparatus for Facilitating the Connection of Tubulars Using a Top Drive

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Group Art Unit: 3672

Examiner: J. Hawkins

#12C(W.E.)
J. James
1/29/02

RECEIVED

JAN 28 2002

GROUP 3600

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
37 CFR 1.8

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED SEPTEMBER 14, 2001

In response to the Final Office Action dated September 14, 2001, having a shortened statutory period set to expire on December 14, 2001, please enter the following amendments and reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please amend Figures 2, 4, and 5 as shown in the attached red-lined copies.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Enclosed herewith is a substitute specification to correct the informalities of organization as requested by the Examiner. No new matter has been introduced. Additionally, please enter the following amendments to the substitute specification:

Please delete paragraph 6.